

RESOLUTION NO. 48-08

BY: **SCOTT M. TUMA**
(By Request – Mayor)

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “NATIONAL
CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK,”
DESIGNATED THE WEEK OF APRIL 13TH
THROUGH APRIL 19TH OF 2008, AND
DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, 23 million Americans are victims of crime each year, and of those, 5.2 million are victims of violent crime; and,

WHEREAS, a just society acknowledges crime’s impact on individuals, families, and communities by ensuring that rights, resources, and services are available to help rebuild lives; and,

WHEREAS, victims’ rights are a critical component of the promise of “justice for all,” the foundation for our system of justice in America; and,

WHEREAS, although our nation has steadily expanded rights, protections, and services for victims of crime, too many victims are still not able to realize the hope and promise of these gains; and,

WHEREAS, we must do better to ensure services are available for underserved segments of our population, including crime victims with disabilities, victims with mental illness, victims who are teenagers, victims who are elderly, victims in rural areas, and victims in communities of color; and,

WHEREAS, observing victims’ rights and treating victims with dignity and respect serves the public interest by engaging victims in the justice system, inspiring respect for public authorities, and promoting confidence in public safety; and,

WHEREAS, America recognizes that we make our homes, neighborhoods, and communities safer and stronger by serving victims and justice for all; and,

WHEREAS, National Crime Victims’ Rights Week – April 13-19, 2008—provides an opportunity for us to strive to reach the goal of justice for all by ensuring that all victims are afforded their legal rights and provided with assistance as they face the financial, physical, and psychological impact of crime; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Parma is joining forces with victim service programs, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens through the City and America to raise awareness about victims’ rights and observe the 28th National Crime Victims’ Rights Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PARMA, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That this Council hereby supports the week of April 13th through April 19th of 2008 which is designated as “National Crime Victims’ Rights Week” and reaffirm this City’s commitment to respect and enforce victims’ rights and address their needs during this week and throughout the year.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council be, and he hereby is, directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to Senators Sherrod Brown and George Voinovich and Congressman Dennis Kucinich and the National Center for Victims of Crime, 2000 M. Street, NW, Suite 480, Washington, DC 20036.

Section 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 4. That this Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the City of Parma, and for the further reason that this measure is necessary to ensure enactment prior to the event week, and this Resolution shall become immediately effective upon receiving the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council and approval of the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
CLERK OF COUNCIL

FILED WITH
THE MAYOR: _____
MAYOR, CITY OF PARMA, OHIO